



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/510,965	02/17/2005	Choon Jong	P25922	4128
7055	7590	02/01/2006	EXAMINER	
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.			NGUYEN, PHUONGCHI T	
1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE			ART UNIT	
RESTON, VA 20191			PAPER NUMBER	
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 02/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

5/2

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/510,965		JONG, CHOON	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Phuongchi Nguyen		2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-90 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 14, 16, 17, 19-46, 51-81 and 88-90 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15, 18, 47-50, 82-87 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/15/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election requirement with transverse of January 04, 2006 is acknowledged. It noted that the specie of Group I (Figures 1-6 and 26) has been selected with claims 1-13, 15, 18, 47-56, 58-63, 82-87, 89 and 90.

However, the independent claims 51 and 89 do not read on the specie of Group I (Figures 1-6 and 26). Claims 51 and 89 recite a terminal connector having a means sliably connectable to an end of a conduit (claim 51, line 4) ...and (a conduit) having an opening arranged to receive a power point connector or an electrical plug (claim 51, lines 2-3). Figures 2-6 and 26 do not show such terminal connector being described as in claims 51 and 89; since figure 1 is considered as an electrical power supply distribution apparatus system, which is, included all of species 1-5. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

The traversal of claims 14, 16, 17, 19-46, 57, 64-81, 88 are still subject to restriction based on the species of Group 2-5; because the specie of group 1 does not require a rotatable arm and EMI shield of the species of groups 2-5.

The election requirement of species to the claims can not be withdrawn; because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as previously indicated is proper.

Claims 14, 16, 17, 19-46, 57, 64-81, 88 are still withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made **FINAL**.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4, 7, 12-13, 82-87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rogers et al (US5688132).

In regards to claims 1 and 82, Rogers et al discloses an electrical power supply distribution apparatus comprising (fig. 2) a conduit (16) (or a housing of Applicant's claim 82) containing at least one elongate conductor (L1, L2), the conduit (16) having an opening (10g) through which a connector (10) is able to be inserted to connect electrically with the conductor (L1, L2), and a conductive member (G) disposed between the opening (10g) and the conductor (L1, L2) and resiliently displaceable by the connector (10) to provide access to the conductor (L1, L2) (fig 3).

In regards to claims 2 and 83, Rogers et al discloses the apparatus wherein the conductive member (G) forms an earth connector.

In regards to claims 3 and 84, Rogers et al discloses the apparatus wherein the conductive member (G) is resiliently biased towards the opening (10g) (by member 16f).

In regards to claim 4, Rogers et al discloses the apparatus wherein the conductive member (G) occludes (a portion of) the opening (10g) (fig. 2).

In regards to claims 7 and 85, Rogers et al discloses the apparatus wherein the opening (10g) is an elongate slot (fig. 3).

In regards to claims 12 and 86, Rogers et al discloses in combination apparatus having the connector (10) having an electrical contact (P1, P2) arranged to engage the conductor (L1, L2).

In regards to claims 13 and 87, Rogers et al discloses the combination wherein the apparatus comprises first (L1) and second conductors (L2) and the connector (10) comprises first and second electrical contacts (P1, P2) arranged to engage respective the conductors (L1, L2).

4. Claims 1, 3-10, 47 and 49-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tan (US5167516).

In regards to claim 1, Tan discloses an apparatus an electrical power supply distribution apparatus comprising a conduit (29) containing at least one elongate conductor (77, 78, 80), the conduit (29) having an opening (20) through which a connector (14) is able to be inserted to connect electrically with the conductor (77, 78, 80), and a conductive member (55) disposed between the opening (20) and the conductor (77, 78, 80) and resiliently displaceable by the connector (14) to provide access to the conductor (77, 78, 80) (fig. 5).

In regards to claim 3, Tan discloses the apparatus wherein the conductive member (55) is resiliently biased towards the opening (20).

In regards to claim 4, Tan discloses the apparatus wherein the conductive member (55) occludes the opening (20).

In regards to claim 6, Tan discloses the apparatus further comprising a displaceable flap (52) for the opening (20), the conductive member (55) underlying the flap (52) (fig. 5).

In regards to claim 7, Tan discloses the apparatus wherein the opening (20) is an elongate slot.

In regards to claim 8, Tan discloses the apparatus wherein the conductive member (55) has a sheet-like surface and a support portion (coil end portion of 55) engaging the conduit (29) (fig. 5).

In regards to claim 9, Tan discloses the apparatus further comprising two opposed support portions (one long spring end of 55 is opposite to another short spring end of 55 with a coil spring in-between).

In regards to claim 10, Tan discloses the apparatus having each portion of the conductive member is of winged form (one long spring end of 55 is opposite to another short spring end of 55 with a coil spring in-between).

In regards to claim 47, Tan discloses an apparatus for distributing electrical power and/or communication signals, the apparatus comprising an elongate conduit (29) containing at least one elongate conductor (77, 78, 80), the conduit (29) having an elongate opening (20) arranged to receive a connector (14) to connect electrically with the conductor (77, 78, 80) and a resiliently displaceable flap (52) for the opening (20) wherein the flap (52) is co-extruded with a pad forming a cover for the conduit (29) (col. 7, lines 11-17).

In regards to claims 49 and 50, Tan discloses the apparatus wherein the flap (52) and part (of the conduit 29) is are co-extruded from the same material but of different hardness or from different materials (col. 7, lines 13 and 16).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 15, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rogers et al (US5688132) in view of Nadean (US5418328).

In regards to claim 15, Rogers et al discloses the invention generally all as claimed, but lacks a further conduit (a second conduit). However, Nadean teaches the electrical power supply

Art Unit: 2833

distribution apparatus further comprising a further conduit (182) (second conduit 182 is similar to the first conduit 181) (fig. 16) containing at least one elongate conductor (17, 18), the further conduit (182) having an opening arranged to receive a data and/or communications connector (199) to connect electrically with the conductor (17, 18). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to modify the electrical power supply distribution apparatus of Rogers et al by providing another conduit as taught by Nadean to expand the power supply apparatus for convenience to the users.

In regards to claim 18, after Roger et al has been modified by having another conduit as taught by Nadean, the (second) data/communications connector (199) having an electrical contact arranged to engage the conductor (which are similar to the electrical contacts of 195 to engage to the conductor 17, 18).

6. Claim 48 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tan (US4243284).

In regards to claim 48, Tan discloses the invention generally all as claimed, but lacks a second flap. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus of Tan by having a second flap to close the opening of conduit on both sides; since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 5 and 11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

In regards to claim 5, none of prior art teaches or suggests the apparatus having the conductive member seals the opening combination with all of claimed limitation above.

In regards to claim 11, none of prior art teaches or suggests the apparatus having Apparatus wherein the or each wing comprises a plurality of individual wing portions separately connected to the surface combination with all of claimed limitation above.

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Gorny (US4139252), Cancellieri et al (US5759051), Schindele (US4720768), Lorenzen et al (US2003/0224636A1) are cited to show the electrical power supply apparatus having at least one of conductor.

Conclusion

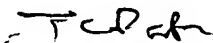
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuongchi Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2012. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PCN

January 26, 2006


TULSIDAS C. PATEL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER